Mr. T. K. Nayar: Will you be able to clear all the arrears pertaining to the years 1110 and 1111?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon: Government have placed a sum of half-a-lakh of rupees at the disposal and they have called for specific proposals as to the principle to be applied. As the hon'ble member is aware, it is not possible to apply the old rules in respect of clearing arrears of these classes. As far as I am able to say, at present aid will be given to classes started in 1110 and 1111 for this year and for at least one year in the past. Classes started in 1111 are entitled to grant in 1112, that is to say, one year afterwards. With the funds now available it is not possible to give grant now to the classes started in 1112.

Mr. T. K. Nayar: Is there no chance of aiding the classes started in 1112?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon: I think the President made it clear that an opportunity should be given to the House to evolve some scheme by which these also could be taken up for aid next year. The question arises only from 1114 and this House will have a chance of discussing the whole scheme in detail.

AZHIKKAL—FRESH WATER—SUPPLY OF.

11. Mr. L. M. Pylee: Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(*a*) whether representations had been received from the littoral tract of Azhikkal about the hardship the population there had long been put to for want of fresh water in that area;

(*b*) whether any, and if so, what steps have been taken by the Government to relieve the distress of the people of Azhikkal in this matter;

(*c*) whether the Government intend to arrange for supply of Alwaye water to that locality and the neighbouring littoral areas in the near future;

(*d*) if so, whether the barge or barges that were until recently used for transporting Alwaye water from Eranakulam to Mattancheri could not be utilised for supplying Alwaye water to Azhikkal?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) No steps have been taken.

(*c*) With the existing pipeline it is not possible to extend the supply to the littoral tracts. The pipeline will have to be renewed with bigger pipes which is not possible now.

(*d*) No; vide answer to (*c*) above.

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